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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **CALICO JACK LIMITED** [GB/GB]; Argyll House, Marketgait, Dundee DD1 1QP (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **REED, Chris, Anthony** [GB/GB]; c/o Calico Jack Limited, Argyll

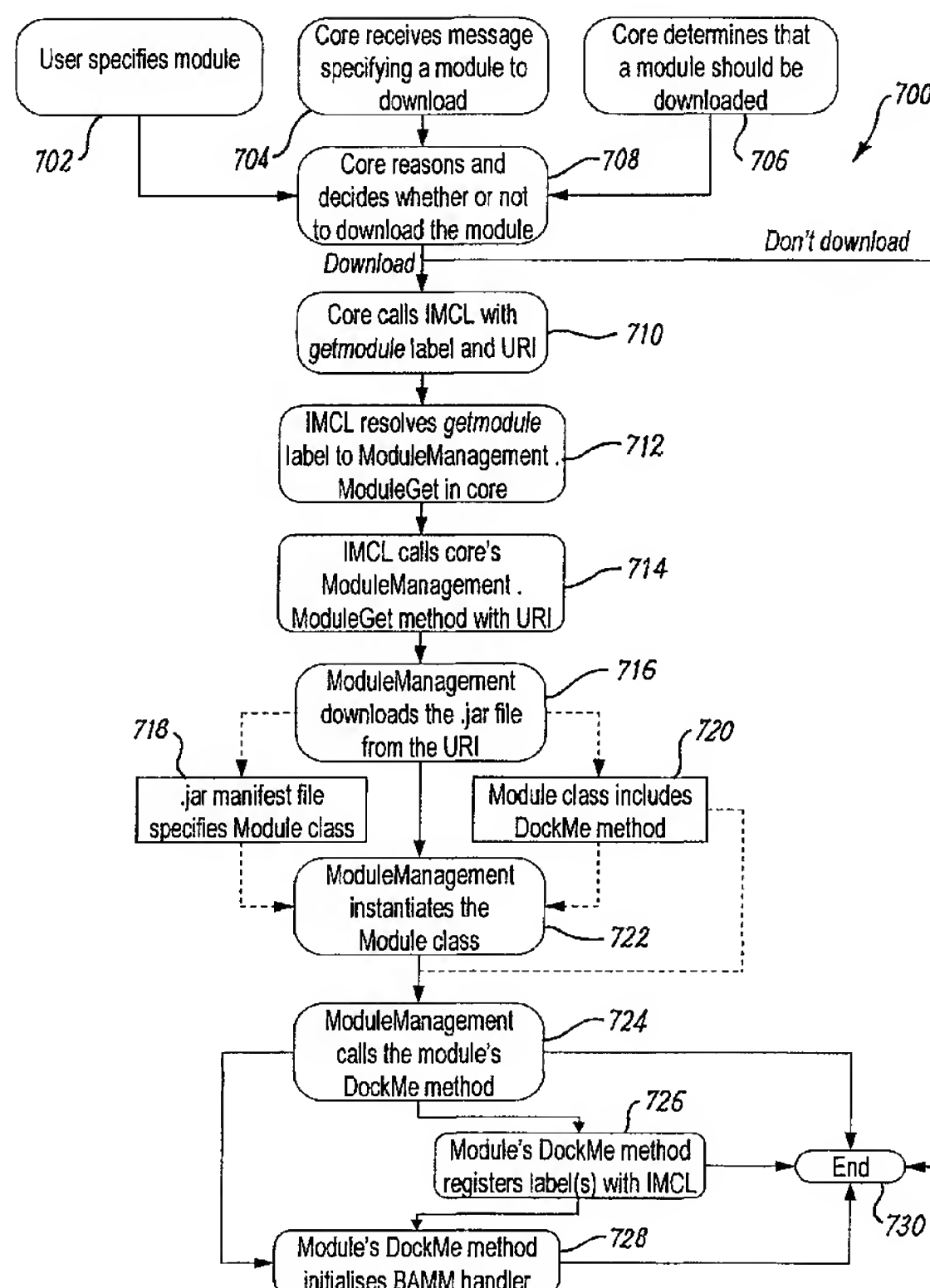
House, Marketgait, Dundee DD1 1QP (GB). **MOYNIHAN, Richard** [GB/GB]; c/o Calico Jack Limited, Argyll House, Marketgait, Dundee DD1 1QP (GB). **BOSWELL, Brian** [GB/GB]; c/o Calico Jack Limited, Argyll House, Marketgait, Dundee DD1 1QP (GB).

(74) Agent: **KENNEDYS PATENT AGENCY LIMITED**; Floor 5, Queens House, 29 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2DT (GB).

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(54) Title: DYNAMIC MODULARITY IN FLEXIBLE, PERSISTENT AGENTS



(57) Abstract: Apparatus and method for the dynamic deployment of functionality in software agents. The agent which represents a person's identity, is adapted to dock with a dockable module which includes a method means for performing a function. The agent also has an intermodule communication means for mapping a request from a requesting module to the method means in the dockable module. The invention provides efficient dynamic changes of modules in an agent and the capability to decouple modules in such a way that both data exchange and method calls can be executed without prior knowledge of anticipated functionality.

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